

The *F. subnuda* that I observed on 5 May were attacking only the male flies since the females had not yet emerged. The *F. podzolica* that were observed on 12 and 13 May showed no apparent preference for the male or female black fly. A few ants were observed dragging both male and female carcasses that were still *in copula*. More frequently, an ant was successful in killing only one fly. The other fly would either remain wounded and separate immobilized from the mate or fly off unscathed.

Once an ant obtained its victim, it quickly turned back toward the colony. With the captured fly (flies) supported by the ant's mandibles, the ant completely ignored the trail of other mating pairs and other flies. On two occasions, ants with flies clasped in their mandibles walked directly over mating flies, which having been disturbed, separated and flew off. The *F. podzolica* colony (ca. 40 cm diam) was in a loose sand area about 1.5 m off the vehicular access zone on the south side of the road. On 13 May, ants from within the colony were also observed to be discarding *Prosimulium* carcasses from the colony interior to the area just outside (3–4 cm) the access holes. Since adult flies had been emerging since 3 May, the duration of time within the colony for these discarded *Prosimulium* is uncertain.

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THE FIRST OCCURRENCE OF *CATORHINTHA MENDICA* STÅL
IN NEW ENGLAND (HEMIPTERA: COREIDAE)

The spread of the coreid bug *Catorhintha mendica* Stål from the Great Plains eastward is, as noted by Hoebeke and Wheeler (1982) one of the few well documented cases of such a range extension known in the Hemiptera.

On August 7, 1982 I collected a series of eight adults of this species from a small patch of the host plant, *Mirabilis nyctaginea* (Michx.) MacMill.

growing adjacent to the spillway of the large flood control dam in Mansfield Center, Connecticut.

The collecting site is several miles from any railroad and the plants occurred within a two square meter area. Hoebeke and Wheeler (1982) support Balduf's (1957) belief that the spread of the plant has been essentially along railroad rights of way. This is probably so and it suggests that both plant and insect may have been present in Connecticut for some time. The collecting site is some distance from any commercial center, several miles from a railroad and is in the interior hill country of the eastern part of Connecticut. Dowhan (1979) lists *Mirabilis nyctaginea* from Connecticut. Meyerhoff (pers. comm.) informs me that it is not uncommon in suitable habitats in western Connecticut but that he has not observed it east of the Connecticut River.

The presence of *Catorhintha mendica* in New England in a sense completes its sweep eastward to the Atlantic coast. Hoebeke and Wheeler (1982) were the first to provide an east coast record when they reported it from eastern Long Island (Yaphank). They also listed several Pennsylvania records. Balduf (1957) had also reported it from western Pennsylvania and Hoffman (1975) from inland Virginia.

It gives me particular pleasure to be able to add this insect to the New England Hemiptera fauna as the species was the subject of my first scientific paper which was published just forty years ago (Slater, 1943).—*James A. Slater, Section of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut 06268.*

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